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For Immediate Release...

Corrections News

October 2, 2007

Governor Blunt will hold a 1 pm news conference today at the Pettis County Courthouse, where he'll be joined by Missouri Department of Corrections Director Larry Crawford and other Department officials.

From 3-5 pm, the Pettis County Community Partnership will open its doors to gather input from county residents about reentry efforts.

"We have come to realize that government works best through collaboration involving local community partnerships."

Director Larry Crawford

Department to Participate in 'Capitol for a Day' in Sedalia

Fulfilling his pledge to make state government more accessible to the public, Governor Matt Blunt and leaders from 16 state departments will hold the first 'Capitol for a Day' today in Sedalia.

Governor Blunt will hold a 1 o'clock news conference at the Pettis County Courthouse, where he'll be joined by Missouri Department of Corrections (DOC) Director Larry Crawford and other Department Directors. DOC officials will be at the courthouse until 5 pm to answer any questions from the public about the Department.

From 3-5 pm, the Pettis County Community Partnership will open its doors to gather input from county residents about reentry efforts. The Pettis County Community Partnership is located at 515 South Kentucky in Sedalia. Director Crawford and Probation & Parole officials will attend that event. The Department has established a strong collaboration with the Pettis County Community Partnership in transitioning offenders from prison to the community.

"We have come to realize that government works best through collaboration involving local community partnerships," said Director Crawford. "In an effort to enhance public safety, we have developed strong partnerships with local communities to assist us in preparing those offenders under the jurisdiction of the Department to be law-abiding and productive citizens. The Community Partnership in Pettis County has gone above and beyond their call of duty in providing us the education, knowledge, assistance and tools in promoting a safer community."

Reentry has been a major priority for the Department and the Governor. In 2005, Governor Blunt signed an executive order creating the Missouri Reentry Process (MRP) to integrate successful offender reentry principles and practices in state agencies and communities, resulting in partnerships which improve public safety and reduce recidivism. Community partnerships' strategies include using dollars more flexibly and effectively and to be accountable for results.

Through MRP, the Department has recognized the value of community partnerships including treatment providers, law enforcement, victims and the faith-based community.

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